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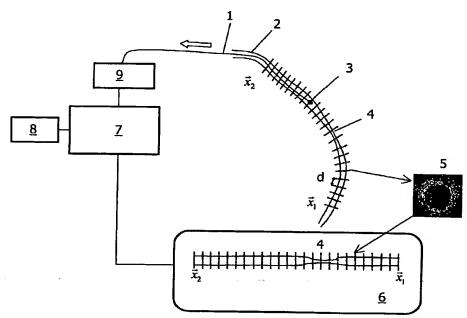
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ASSISTING THE NAVIGATION OF A CATHETER IN A VESSEL



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to the assistance of the navigation of a catheter (1) in a vessel (2). A sequence of cross-sectional images of the portion of the vessel that is of interest is first obtained with the help of an intravascular ultrasound (IVUS) probe (3) and stored as a roadmap of the vessel. A cross-sectional image (10) that is obtained at the current position of the IVUS probe (3) can then be sorted to the position on the roadmap that is the best fit. A model (3) of the probe, and a model (11) of the instrument (a stent (11), for example) coupled to the probe, can be shown on a display (6) at the corresponding position on the roadmap.



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Category °	Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/077546 A1 (BECKMANN FRIEDRICH-KARL ET AL) 20 June 2002 (2002-06-20) abstract paragraphs '0002!, '0009!, '0014! paragraphs '0016!, '0023!, '0026! paragraphs '0028!, '0029!, '0037! figure 1	1-10
X	EP 0 885 594 A (MEDINOL LTD) 23 December 1998 (1998-12-23) abstract figures 2A,4 page 2, line 15 - line 25 page 2, line 51 - line 55 page 6, line 2 - line 8 page 19, line 23 - page 20, line 10 figure 15	1-10

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	ation) DOCUMENTS CORRESPONDED TO BE RELEVANT	35, 55.12
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Α	ROBB R A: "Visualization in biomedical computing" PARALLEL COMPUTING, ELSEVIER PUBLISHERS, AMSTERDAM, NL, vol. 25, no. 13-14, December 1999 (1999-12), pages 2067-2110, XP004363672 ISSN: 0167-8191 abstract page 2097, last paragraph - page 2098 figures 30-34	1-10
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P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
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